

FOSTER SCHOOL DEPARTMENT
MINUTES

Captain Isaac Paine School
160 Foster Center Road
Foster, RI 02825

March 23, 2010
Open Session - 7:00 pm

1. Convene Meeting – Ron Cervasio, Chair, called the meeting of the Foster School Committee to order at 7:00pm

a. Roll Call – The following members were in attendance, Ron Cervasio, Chair, Cindy Bernard, Vice-Chair, member, Dennis Chretien, Greg Piccirilli, Legal Counsel, Dr. Davida Irving, Superintendent / Principal, and Mrs. McCullough, School Committee Secretary.

b. Pledge of Allegiance – This was recited.

2. Requests to Use School Facilities

On a motion by Mr. Chretien and seconded by Mrs. Bernard the Foster School Committee approved the request by Fostering Arts.Org to use the school the weekend of December 11, 12, & 13, 2010 for 'Christmas in the Valley'. Motion passed. Vote 3-0-0.

3. Approval of Minutes

(These were approved later in the meeting)

On a motion by Mrs. Bernard and seconded by Mr. Chretien the Foster School Committee approved the Minutes of February 25, 2010. Motion passed. Vote = 2-0-1.
Vote as follows:

Mr. Cervasio – yes

Mrs. Bernard – abstained

Mr. Chretien - yes

4. Approval of Warrants

On a motion by Mr. Chretien and seconded by Mrs. Bernard the Foster School Committee approved the Warrant dated March 6, 2010 in the amount of \$71,727.62. Motion passed. Vote = 3-0-0.

5. Old Business (for discussion/action)

a. Foster and Glocester Resource Sharing

Mr. Chretien had nothing at this time to report.

6. New business (for discussion)

a. Special Education Transportation Mandate

Dr. Irving shared the 'Statewide Special Education Transportation Mandate'. This program will go into effect on July 1, 2010. If anyone has questions concerning this new transportation mandate, they can contact Pat Durfee at RIDE.

b. NECAP Scores

Karen Seitler, CIPS test coordinator, shared the NECAP scores with the Foster School Committee and members of the audience.

c. Full Day Kindergarten

Dr. Irving explained to the audience that due to the listing of 'Full Day Kindergarten' on the agenda and recommendation of legal counsel that the School Committee can discuss Full Day Kindergarten but should not vote on the issue. Dr. Irving presented her reasons for full day K and explained that the money to fund this program will come from the .5 Behavioral Specialist through LEA dollars (which have not been used for this school year) and from IDEA ARRA dedicated to the .5 Education Behavior Specialist. The ARRA funds are available for supplanting. The School Committee and members of the audience shared their pros and cons for the Full Day K. Discussion ensued. The School Committee will try to hold a special meeting to vote on Full Day before the April meeting.

d. Swamp Meadow Theater – Building Use

Before discussions of Swamp Meadow Theater began, Mr. Chretien recused himself, as he is a member / participant with this organization. Discussion of the Swamp Meadow Theater's use of the School was discussed with many people sharing their thoughts and views. Further discussions with their Board of Directors were held in Executive Session.

7. Communication/Reports

a. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

b. Superintendent's Report

The Superintendent reported that a technology grant called 'Model Classroom Technology Grant' was applied for in the amount of \$4000 per classroom and all FTA agreed to take part if the grant is awarded.

Mr. Cervasio interjected that the Superintendent and members of the FTA were taken to Washington DC with the Commissioner of the RI Department of Education to be recognized for Foster's commitment to the "Race to the Top".

c. Public Comment

There was no Public Comments.

d. Future Agenda Items

Recreation Committee – discussion of the use of the building

8. Vote to go into Executive Session for discussion and/or action regarding the items of business referred to in R.I.G.L. 42-46-5a (5) Lease of Public Property (7) Investment of Public Funds, Swamp Meadow Theater.

On a motion by Mrs. Bernard and seconded by Mr. Cervasio the School Committee voted to go into Executive Session. Motion passed. Vote = 2-0-0.

Vote as follows:

Mr. Cervasio – yes

Mrs. Bernard – yes

Mr. Chretien – recused

9. Return to Open Session

On a motion by Mrs. Bernard and seconded by Mr. Cervasio the School Committee reconvened Open Session. Mr. Cervasio said there were discussions with Swamp Meadow Theater's Board of Directors but that no votes were taken.

On a motion by Mrs. Bernard and seconded by Mr. Cervasio the School Committee voted to seal the minutes. Motion passed. Vote = 2-0-0.

10. Adjournment

On a motion by Mrs. Bernard and seconded by Mr. Cervasio the School Committee voted to adjourn at 10:00pm. Motion passed. Vote = 2-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Helena McCullough
Secretary Foster School Committee